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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1605

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COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE

FINANCE

HEALTH, EDUCATION,
LABOR, AND PENSIONS

ETHICS

RULES

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
United States Senate
S-230
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator McConnell:

I write today to place a hold on the nomination of Eric K. Fanning (PN875) to serve as Secretary of the Army. I have provided notification of my intent to the Armed Services Committee and plan to speak with the current Secretary of the Army, John McHugh, as soon as possible to discuss my concerns.

As you know, President Obama has attempted to close the detention facility at Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay since 2009. In recent months, he has revived this fruitless effort by asking the Department of Defense (DoD) to conduct site surveys at potential relocations across the country. Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, was among those visited by the DoD survey team. It is my intention to hold Mr. Fanning's nomination until the President or Secretary of Defense, Ash Carter, give me the appropriate assurances that Ft. Leavenworth will not be utilized for holding a single enemy combatant.

I will inform your office as soon as these assurances have been made and I lift my hold.

Sincerely,



Pat Roberts

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